



GAIL FARBER, Director

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

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December 15, 2009

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

## ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

69 DECEMBER 15, 2009

*Sachi A. Hamai*  
SACHI A. HAMAI  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

### **CHANGES IN WORK FOR VARIOUS PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTS CITY OF PALMDALE AND IN THE UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITY OF FERNWOOD (SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS 3 AND 5) (3 VOTES)**

#### **SUBJECT**

This action is to approve changes in work and the increased contract amounts for various public works construction contracts in the City of Palmdale and the unincorporated community of Fernwood.

#### **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY WATERWORKS DISTRICT NOS. 29 AND 40:**

Find that the requested changes in work have no significant effect on the environment and approve the changes and increased contract amounts for the following construction contracts:

- Project ID No. WWD2900009 - Topanga Beach Booster Pump Station Upgrade, to replace an aging booster pump station, in the unincorporated community of Fernwood, being performed by Schuler Engineering Corporation, for changes related to removing a tree, realigning waterlines, installing a gate valve, and revising the grading, with an increase in the contract amount of \$85,739.
- Project ID No. WWD4004032 - Avenue M and 5th Street East, Well Utility Site, Wells 4-73, 4-74, 4-80, and 4-81, to drill and equip four water wells, City of Palmdale, being performed by Bakersfield Well & Pump Company, for changes related to installing a double drive gate, modifying well screens, drilling deeper wells, and to mitigate arsenic levels, with an increase in the contract amount of \$1,355,839.05.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The purpose of the recommended action is to obtain the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors' (Board) approval for changes in public works contracts in support of the timely completion of the projects while avoiding delays and the potential for claims. The descriptions of the changes, estimated costs, and the necessary time extensions are listed in the enclosure for each contract.

The Director of Public Works or her designee has been authorized by your Board to order changes in work up to \$10,000 for construction contracts. Enclosed for your authorization are changes in work in excess of the Director of Public Works' delegated limits, which are required to complete Project ID Nos. WWD2900009 and WWD4004032.

The magnitude of the requested change on Project ID No. WWD4004032 is a result of not finding sufficient water at the designated well depths. To find sufficient water-bearing foundations will require drilling an additional 500 feet at each well and installing the increased quantities of casing, well screens, and other appurtenances.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provisions of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1) and Community and Municipal Services (Goal 3). Approval of these changes will provide improved infrastructure to better serve the public and enhance the quality of life in the affected community.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

These changes in work will have no impact to the County General Fund.

The estimated change order amounts for these contracts are increases in the amounts of \$85,739 and \$1,355,839.05, respectively. Detailed cost breakdowns for each of the changes, together with the contract cost summaries, are included in the enclosures.

Funding for Project ID No. WWD2900009 is included in the Fiscal year 2009-10 Accumulative Capital Outlay Fund of Waterworks District No. 29, Malibu. Funding for Project ID No. WWD4004032 is included in the Fiscal Year 2009-10 Accumulative Capital Outlay Fund of Waterworks District No. 40, Antelope Valley.

If these changes in work are not approved, contract completion will be delayed and increased costs incurred.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

Each of the subject contracts, for the construction of public works improvements, was awarded by your Board to a responsible contractor with the lowest responsive bid in accordance with the State Public Contract Code, your Board's directives, and as recommended by the Director of Public Works or her designee.

**ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

The changes in work as described above and in the enclosures do not change any conditions which resulted in the original environmental findings.

**CONTRACTING PROCESS**

Each contract provides that the contractor be compensated for the work resulting from changes to the original plans and specifications or changed conditions encountered during the course of construction. The costs are based on contract unit prices, time and materials, or negotiated under the provisions of the contract specifications. The methods for arriving at the costs of the changes are included in the enclosures.

**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Approval of the requested changes by your Board will ensure the timely completion of work under each of the respective contracts and result in complete and usable facilities.

**CONCLUSION**

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Construction Division.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail Farber".

GAIL FARBER

Director

GF:JTS:ss

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Office (Lari Sheehan)  
County Counsel  
Executive Office  
Office of Affirmative Action Compliance

CHANGE IN WORK (AUTHORIZE)  
December 15, 2009

PROJECT ID NO. WWD2900009 - TOPANGA BEACH BOOSTER PUMP STATION  
UPGRADE (in the unincorporated community of Fernwood), Supervisorial District 3  
Contractor: Schuler Engineering Corporation

Project Description:

Replacement of an aging booster pump station and the performance of other appurtenant work.

Changes in Work:

(1) Tree Removal	\$ 1,182.00
(2) Crushed Aggregate Base	572.00
(3) Encasement for Flex Couplings	1,222.00
(4) Core Flow-Meter Vault	554.00
(5) Lubrication Tubes	654.00
(6) Retrofit Buried 6-inch Ball Valve	1,080.00
(7) Modify and Relocate Piping	8,000.00
(8) Realign Waterline	16,230.00
(9) Relocation of 8-inch Waterline	5,000.00
(10) Gate Valve	2,645.00
(11) Revised Grading	48,000.00
(12) Additional Curb Protection for Southern California Edition Vault	600.00
Total	<u>\$85,739.00</u>

Description of Changes:

- (1) It will be necessary to remove one eucalyptus tree that is interfering with the waterline tie-in on Topanga Canyon Road.
- (2) Prior to installing the waterline, the contractor encountered soft and unsuitable soil. It will be necessary to replace this soil with crushed aggregate base before installing the waterline.
- (3) The eight flex couplings on the south side of the suction pump will be encased in cement slurry for protection. It will be necessary to compensate the contractor for this work.

- (4) The holes made in the flow-meter vault were at the wrong locations. It will be necessary to redrill this vault.
- (5) The buried stainless steel ball valves for the surge tank assembly need to be lubricated periodically. In order to accomplish this, it will be necessary to install extension tubes that will connect to the valves.
- (6) The plans called for a 6-inch ball valve to be placed above ground. Subsequent design changes required the valve to be buried underground. In order to function properly, it must be retrofitted with additional equipment.
- (7) In order to connect various areas of pump station, it will be necessary to modify the piping and relocate a ball valve. This work is not shown on the plans.
- (8) The location of an existing 12-inch waterline was incorrectly shown on the plans. This discrepancy created a conflict with the proposed 12- and 16- inch lines that need to be installed.
- (9) It will be necessary to change the alignment of the proposed 8-inch waterline in direct conflict with a septic tank that was incorrectly marked.
- (10) The original plans call for the installation of a 12-inch plug valve. Upon further review, it was determined that this valve is inadequate and may restrict water flow during peak flow times. To prevent this, it will be necessary to replace the 12-inch plug valve with a 12-inch gate valve. The contractor will be compensated for this work.
- (11) It will be necessary to modify the grading to match existing field conditions. The work also includes adding additional Portland Concrete Cement curb gutter, a slab on the south side of the pump station, and raising the slab for the suction surge tank.
- (12) Southern California Edison requested its vault be protected by extending the 8-inch curb to wrap around the vault.

The costs for Items 1, 7, 8, and 11 were negotiated as provided in Subsection 3-2 of the contract specifications. The costs for Items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, and 12 will be based on time and materials as provided in Subsection 3-3 of the contract specifications.

Seventeen additional working days will be required because of these changes.

Financial Information:

Funding for these changes in work is included in the Fiscal Year 2009-10 Accumulative Capital Outlay Fund of Waterworks District No. 29, Malibu.

Revised Contract Amount:

Original contract amount	\$2,574,430.00
Changes in work previously approved by the Board	70,939.60
Changes in work to be authorized	<u>85,739.00</u>
Revised contract amount	<u>\$2,731,108.60</u>
Percent total change to original contract amount	6.1%

SK:ss

CHANGE IN WORK (AUTHORIZE)  
December 15, 2009

PROJECT ID NO. WWD4004032 - AVENUE M AND 5TH STREET EAST, WELL UTILITY SITE, WELLS 4-73, 4-74, 4-80 AND 4-81 (City of Palmdale), Supervisorial District 5, Contractor: Bakersfield Well & Pump Company

Project Description:

Drilling and equipping of four water wells and the performance of other appurtenant work.

Changes in Work:

(1) Double Drive Gate	\$ 3,000.00
(2) Well Screen	258,948.85
(3) Deepen Water Wells	986,546.20
(4) Mitigate Arsenic	<u>107,344.00</u>
Total	<u>\$1,355,839.05</u>

Description of Changes:

(1) It will be necessary to install a double drive gate to allow equipment to access the project site. The gate is not shown on the plans.

(2) The pilot hole testing and final well design require the water wells be drilled 500 feet deeper than originally planned. The tensile strength of the well screen specified in the contract does not meet the requirements for the deeper wells. The screen material needs to be replaced with one that provides adequate tensile strength at lower depths.

(3) Based on the pilot hole testing the water wells will be drilled approximately 500 feet deeper than originally planned to achieve the needed ground water production. Additional labor and materials will be needed for this work. The work includes additional well casing, borehole, sound tube, cement grout seal, and gravel pack.

(4) During construction of the wells, water quality samples were collected and tested as required by the California Department of Public Health. The test results show the concentrations of arsenic exceed allowable levels. The well water will be blended with imported water, which has no arsenic to reduce the concentration and requires construction of 30-inch piping and installation of two butterfly valves.

The cost for Item 1 will be based on time and materials as provided in Subsection 3-3 of the contract specifications. The costs for Items 2 and 4 were negotiated as provided in Subsection 3-2 of the contract specifications. The cost for Item 3 will be based on contract unit prices.

One hundred and thirty-eight additional working days will be required because of these changes.

Financial Information:

Funding for these changes in work is included in the Fiscal Year 2009-10 Accumulative Capital Outlay Fund of Waterworks District No. 40, Antelope Valley.

Revised Contract Amount:

Original contract amount	\$3,659,605.56
Changes in work to be authorized	<u>1,355,839.05</u>
Revised contract amount	<u>\$5,015,444.61</u>
Percent total change to original contract amount	37%

MR:ss